

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (presently amended): Apparatus for producing fatty acid methyl ester, comprising:

at least one container for fats;

a tank for alkaline solution;

a tank for alcohol;

a mixing vessel for compounding the alkaline solution and the alcohol;

a reaction section which comprises a static mixer and is connected to the at least one container and the mixing vessel, and through a high pressure pump for introducing the fats and the alkaline solution to the reaction section; and

a separation unit downstream from the reaction section.

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (presently amended) The apparatus of claim 2 1, wherein the static mixer comprises a pipe.

Claim 4. (original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the pipe is filled with balls of various sizes.

Claim 5. (original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the pipe comprises at least one of a baffle, a propeller, and a resistor.

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Claim 6. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reaction section comprises a dynamic emulsifier.

Claim 7. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reaction section comprises a crack emulsifier.

Claim 8. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reaction section comprises a turbulator.

Claim 9. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reaction section comprises a mixed form of crack emulsifier and turbulator.

Claim 10. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mixed form of crack emulsifier and turbulator comprises two discs capable of moving in relation to one another to introduce emulsion in the middle of one of the discs.

Claim 11. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reaction section comprises a cavitation emulsifier.

Claim 12. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reaction section comprises an ultrasound device.

Claim 13. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the separation unit comprises a filtration unit.

Claim 14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the filtration unit comprises a surface filter comprising a membrane.

Claim 15. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the surface filter comprises a porous carrier and a layer applied to the porous carrier, which layer acts as a membrane.

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Claim 16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the porous carrier comprises a pipe.

Claim 17. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the porous carrier comprises one of aluminum oxide, porous glass, and silicate.

Claim 18. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the layer acting as a membrane has at least one of lipophilic, hydrophilic, and amphoteric properties.

Claim 19. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the layer acting as a membrane comprises a ceramic membrane.

Claim 20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the ceramic membrane comprises one of titanium dioxide and zirconium dioxide.

Claim 21. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the layer acting as a membrane has a pore size which is at least one of a nano pore size and a micro pore size.

Claim 22. (original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the pore size is 5-200 nm.

Claim 23. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the filtration unit comprises one of a molecular sieve filter and a molecular sieve membrane.

Claim 24. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the filtration unit comprises a multiphase filter.

Claim 25. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the separation unit comprises a distillation unit comprising at least one evaporator and at least one condenser.

Claim 26. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a distillation unit comprising at least one evaporator and at least one condenser downstream from the separation unit.

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Claim 27. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a down-flow evaporator.

Claim 28. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a thin-layer evaporator.

Claim 29. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a rotation flow evaporator.

Claim 30. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a distillation unit which is upstream of the separation unit.

Claim 31. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an additional separation unit downstream from the separation unit.

Claim 32. (presently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~1~~³¹, wherein the additional separation unit is connected to the reaction section by a connecting pipe from the at least one container for the fats.

Claims 33-34. (canceled)

Claim 35. (presently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a flash reactor downstream of the reaction section for evaporating surplus ~~methanol~~ alcohol.